



CALPEEK

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CAMPAIGN '98: OPPONENTS OF 95-5 SCHOOL SPENDING PLAN ARE GEARING UP FOR FIGHT

Editor's note: There will be two major initiatives on the June ballot dealing with **education**: the Unz initiative to do away with the current system of bilingual education and the so-called "95/5" initiative. There hasn't been much written about 95/5 to date, but like the Unz initiative, most of Calif.'s educational establishment are gearing up to fight it. Here's our analysis...

...In mid December of last year, pollster Mervin Field released his survey which showed 95/5 being favored by a margin of **54% YES** vs. **29% NO** and **17% have no opinion**. For those who have forgotten, the official title is **Schools. Spending Limits On Administration** and its basic aim is to prohibit school districts from spending more than **5%** of their funds on administrative costs. And if a school district is not in compliance, the State Board of Education will levy a *fine*...

...The opposition committee, which now goes by the official name of *Parents, Teachers & Educators for Local Control*, has hired Sacto consultant Wayne Johnson. Key backers of NO on 95/5 include the Calif. School Employees Assn.(CSEA), the Calif. PTA, the Assn. of Calif. School Administrators(ACSA) and the State School Boards Assn. NO on 95/5 sources expect 150 local CTA affiliates to eventually oppose 95/5. The powerful Calif. Teachers Assn.(CTA) is officially neutral, as is AFSCME...

...The opposition claims that 95/5 is a "UTLA scam." UTLA is United Teachers of L.A. and they are a key backer of 95/5, as is L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan, U.S. Rep. Howard Berman(D) and U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D). Those districts not in compliance are hit with a fine which amounts of **5%** of each district's ADA (average daily attendance). Johnson says that's about

\$200 per student. The fines are then redistributed to districts who meet 95/5 guidelines. Does the LAUSD benefit if 95/5 is approved? **YES**, because they are very close to the 95/5 limit and Prop. BB (a \$2 billion + bond measure to repair schools in L.A. approved in '97) will keep the huge district in compliance for the next 10 years, according to Johnson...

...Johnson's aim is to make the LAUSD the *villain* in this campaign. He says there's already solid opposition to 95/5 in No. Calif. and he anticipates heavy NO on 95/5 in the rest of the State once voters are properly informed. "*Just think of 95/5 as a big Peripheral Canal, full of local school dollars, headed for L.A.*" Johnson says. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: THE LINEUP FOR STATE OFFICES.

Editor's note: **Calpeek** waited until the last minute to put this story together. Here's the lineup for Statewide Constitutional offices. We'll follow up next week with more information & analysis...

• **Governor** - AG Dan Lungren(R); Lt. Gov. Gray Davis(D); businessman Al Checchi(D); and U.S. Rep. Jane Harman(D). L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan(R) announced he would NOT run - meaning Riordan's (and U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein's) consultant, Bill Carrick, will be Harman's lead/media consultant. And Harman will again use Garin-Hart as her pollster...

...Godbe Research & Analysis completed a survey of 608 likely voters, Jan. 31 - Feb. 2 on the gubernatorial contest. If the open primary were held today, here's how these four would finish: Lungren **21%**, Davis **15%**, Checchi **13%**, Harman **4%**, another candidate **1%** and undecided **45%**. Pollster Bryan Godbe says that the results are not especially encouraging for either Lungren or Davis. The GOP registration base in Calif.

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is 36%, so Lungren is running 15-pts. behind registration. Godbe says part of Lungren's problem is Checchi, who is currently pulling 15% of GOP male voters...

...FYI: Harman's entry into the governor's race will set off a mad scramble for her 36th CD seat. Sources say Republicans Susan Brooks, Assemblyman Steve Kuykendahl and L.A. Councilman Rudy Svorinich are the ones most anxious to replace Harman...

- **Lt. Governor** - State Senators Tim Leslie(R) and Richard Mountjoy(R); businesswoman Noel Irwin-Hentschel(R); Assembly Speaker Cruz Bustamante(D); and Prop. 208 co-author Tony Miller(D)...

- **Attorney General** - State Senators Bill Lockyer(D) and Charles Calderon(D); Asst. AG David Stirling(R); Orange Co. DA Mike Capizzi(R); and former Demo Congresswoman Lynn Schenk(D). FYI: Lockyer has a \$3 million war chest, but has never prosecuted a criminal. Consultants Richie Ross and Bill Carrick are running Lockyer's campaign...

- **Controller** - Incumbent Kathleen Connell(D) and San Mateo Co. Sup. Ruben Barrales(R). A mismatch, but Barrales is the future of the Calif. GOP. He'll be back in 2002...

- **Treasurer** - Assemblymembers Curt Pringle(R) and Jan Goldsmith(R); & businessman Phil Angelides(D)...

- **Secretary of State** - Incumbent Bill Jones(R) and Michela Alioto(D). A mismatch, but Alioto could hit Jones with some tough questions...

- **Insurance Commissioner** - Incumbent Chuck Quackenbush(R); Assemblywoman Diane Martinez(D); and Marin Co. Sup. Hal Brown(D). Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: 4 LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES ARE ON JUNE BALLOT. THESE ARE "CLEAN UP" MEASURES.
Editor's note: So far, the Legislature has placed 4 measures on the June 2nd ballot. Three of the measures are constitutional amendments and one is a statute. Some bond measures may be added, but time is running short. Here's a brief rundown...

...These measures are a combination of either "good government" proposals or "clean up" plans to close

loopholes in the law. In all four cases, there is little or no opposition...

- ◆ **Court Consolidation** - This is a constitutional amendment (SCA 4) by Sen. Bill Lockyer(D), who is running for AG. Of the four, this one might draw some opposition. Supporters describe it as an efficiency measure which would combine municipal and superior courts, but only if the judges in the various counties voted to approve such consolidation. By eliminating the muni court system, some representation in various minority communities could be lost. FYI: the Calif. Judges Assn. is in support...

- ◆ **2nd Degree Murder** - Currently, those convicted of killing a peace officer in the 2nd degree are eligible for parole. AB 446 by Assemblyman Rod Pacheco(R-Riverside) closes that loophole. If AB 446 is approved June 2nd, those convicted get what's called LWOP (life w/o parole). Sources say the only opposition is from the ACLU and the criminal defense attorneys...

- **Ballot Measures** - This constitutional amendment (SCA 18) by Sen. John Lewis(R-Orange Co.) deals with the wording of initiatives. The *legalese* is complex, so here's an example: if county voters reject a statewide measure to raise taxes for public safety, the ballot measure wording can't exclude the county from getting its fair share of the revenue when it's distributed, even though that county voted against the measure. This proposal has backing from Calif. Common Cause, SOS Bill Jones & the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn.

- ◆ **Court Commissioners** - Court Commissioners are not elected, but are appointed to the bench, usually by the presiding judge of a superior court. Most often court commissioners handle family law cases. This constitutional amendment (SCA 19) by Sen. Tim Leslie(R-Roseville) deals with discipline of commissioners. If a party in a legal dispute feels a particular commissioner has acted improperly, under SCA 19 the dispute can be resolved by the Commission on Judicial Performance - rather than by the presiding judge (who may or may not have a bias). This measure is supported by the State Bar and the Judicial Council. Stay tuned...

FORMER S.F. MAYOR JOE ALIOTO DIES JANUARY 29th.

Alioto, a two-term mayor, died after a long battle with cancer. Actual cause of death was pneumonia. He was 81. He served as mayor from 1968 to 1976. As a politician, he was charismatic, intelligent and was a modern day *renaissance man*. In '68 Alioto went to the DNC Convention in Chicago and made the nominating speech for Hubert Humphrey. The speech propelled Alioto into the national spotlight and for a while at the convention there was talk about Alioto for VP. But the following year came the *Look Magazine* story. No need to rehash, but that story quashed a potential bid for governor in 1970. Four years later he ran for governor --- and if Calif.'s *open primary* law been on the books back then, Alioto might have been elected governor. R.I.P...

CAMPAIGN '98: CALIF. STATE ASSEMBLY CONTESTS.

Editor's note: This week **Calpeek** presents its *overview* of the battle for control of the *State Assembly*. Here's our report & analysis...

...The current lineup is 43 Demos and 37 Republicans, with all 80 seats up for grabs. By the time the Nov. 3rd election hits full stride in September, about 20-25 seats will be in play. Unlike their counterparts in the State Senate, Assembly Demos appear to be better positioned at the current time to retain control of the lower house...

☒ **Open Seat Battles** - Republicans will mount major efforts to capture 2 seats now held by Demos who are *termed out*: Baca(62nd AD) and Bowen(53rd AD). Demos will go all out to capture the seat being vacated by GOPer Brooks Firestone(35th AD). As **Calpeek** hit deadline, it looked as though Steve Kuykendahl(R-54th AD) would give up his seat to run in the 36th CD - meaning the 54th will be up for grabs...

☒ **War Zones** - **Calpeek** sources have IDed 4 incumbent Demos who are targeted: Havice(56th AD); Wildman(43rd AD); Scott(44th AD); and Wayne(78th AD). Of these Demos, Republicans think Wildman and Havice are the most vulnerable. Wildman gets good marks, but he's in a solid GOP district. On the GOP side, Demos will be taking aim at Frusetta(28th AD); Prenter(30th AD); and Morrissey(69th AD)...

☒ **Calpeek's Watch List** - At the present time, there are 5 seats now held by Republicans and 4 seats now held by Demos which are on our *watch list*. Any of these could be moved up to the *War Zone* category if circumstances change. Republican incumbents & seats

on the list include: 60th AD(Miller); 68th AD(Pringle); Cunneen(24th AD); Baugh(67th AD); and Battin(80th AD). Demo incumbents include: Machado(17th AD); Cardoza(39th AD); Davis(76th AD); and Strom-Martin (1st AD). FYI: GOP Assemblyman Roy Ashburn of Bakersfield will seek reelection and won't be battling Chuck Poochigian(R-Fresno) for the open 14th SD...

☒ **Primary Warfare** - The best primary slugfests on the Demo side will be in the 49th AD(Martinez) and the 47th AD(Murray). On the GOP side, look for a very ugly battle for Nao Takasugi's 37th AD seat; another blood bath in the 2nd AD; and a pretty good fight for Bernie Richter's 3rd AD seat. Stay tuned...

CA INITIATIVE UPDATE: NEW BALLOT MEASURES.

Editor's note: Here's another brief summary of the new initiatives which have been given the green light to collect signatures...

◆ **Public Officials: Term Limits/Compensation. Reduction of Legislative Session** is the official title of this constitutional amendment sponsored by Andrew M. Ramirez and Anthony R. Fellows ☎(626)962-2711. This measure increases assembly *terms limits* from 3 to 4 terms and shortens the annual legislative sessions to Mar. 1 through July 2. Deadline for collecting 693,230 signatures is June 25th...

◆ **Initiatives** is the official title of this constitutional amendment to change the initiative process. This proposal would require a 60% vote to change the constitution; limits initiatives to no more than 5,000 words; and the summary must be understood by voters with a 12th grade education. The proponents are John Moores & Theodore D. Roth. ☎(415)398-6230 - law offices of Remcho, Johansen & Purcell. The deadline for collecting 693,230 signatures is June 25th...

◆ **Permissible Consideration of Economic Background, Race, Sex, Ethnicity, National Origin in Public Education** is the official title of this constitutional amendment sponsored by Adam Murray ☎(310)531-6241. Murray has until June 25th to collect 693,230 signatures...

◆ **Joint Child Custody** is the official title of this statute by Henry Gamboa, Susan & James Stivers, Jay Bowden, Kirk Rinella, Michael Salatino and William Marckwardt ☎(619) 465-2328. Requires joint & equal physical custody to both parents - unless there's an agreement between the parents. Proponents have until June 29th to collect 433,269 signatures...

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CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

■ **Valles Wins San Berdu Mayor's Race** - Educator Judith Valles defeated attorney Tim Prince in the Feb. 3rd runoff by a margin of 62% to 38% to become San Bernardino's first Latina mayor. A nice win for consultant Rick Taylor. FYI: Consultant Larry Levine ran a major IE campaign on behalf of Valles...

■ **U.S. Senate Update** - The campaign of GOP U.S. Senate candidate Darrell Issa, the *deep pocketed* San Diego businessman, no longer considers CA Treasurer Matt Fong a *serious GOP primary rival*. Why? Fong's fundraising has been only fair and according to *Roll Call*, the Capitol Hill newspaper in DC, Fong will show only **\$580,000 cash on hand** for the period ending Dec. 31st, with **\$1.7 million** raised for the period. The low COH figure indicates Fong can't control his campaign overhead...

■ **Sanchez Win Upheld** - A U.S. House task force probing allegations that voter fraud led to Demo Loretta Sanchez's win over Bob Dornan(R) in '96 recommends Dornan's challenge be **dropped**. By the time you read this, the full U.S. House may have voted on this recommendation. The task force began its probe 14 months ago and found that about 750 non-citizens voted, but since Sanchez won by 984 votes, it wasn't enough to overturn the election.

■ **Clinton & Pack Journalism** - Although you're not going to read much about Pres. Bill Clinton's Monica troubles in Calpeek, here's a thought. If you've got a videotape of *The American President* starring Michael Douglas, watch it. It's even closer to reality than *Wag the Dog*. And remember that scene in the film where Richard Dreyfus (as Sen. Rumson) and his allies are talking about dragging down Pres. Andrew Shepard's ratings with a *character attack*. Rumson says, "Networks and newspapers like ratings. For all the bitching

we do about liberal bias in the press, when it comes to a good character debate...the press is an unwitting accomplice." FYI: the latest Field Poll shows President Clinton's approval rating in Calif. at **68%**...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● A sad note: Former Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson died Jan. 28th after a battle with cancer. He was 82 and was Oakland's 1st black mayor. He served from 1977 to 1990. R.I.P...

● Gardena Councilman Mas Fukai, who also was the chief deputy to the late L.A. Co. Sup. Kenneth Hahn, is retiring from the council after 24 years of service...

● Some changes at Emily's List in DC. Communications director Karin Johanson returns as political director and DCCC staffer Stephanie Cohen takes Johanson's place...

● Lisa Gimbel is named as press secretary for Darrell Issa's U.S. Senate campaign...

● Steven C. Crosby has been promoted to VP of external affairs at L.A. Cellular...

● L.A. attorney Stephen J. Kaufman of Smith & Kaufman has been hired as legal counsel to U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer's reelection campaign...

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